

HOW TO TURN YOUR RESEARCH QUESTIONS (Step 4) INTO A THESIS STATEMENT (Step 5):

Start with your Essential Research Questions →

Consider what you learned about your topic in Step 3 →

(*briefly answer the questions)

Create statements →

1. What **motivated or inspired** Bethany Hamilton?
2. What **adversities or struggles** did Bethany Hamilton face?
3. What **accomplishments or impacts on society** is Bethany Hamilton known for as her legacy?

1. *Faith in God and religious beliefs, her family including her parents and brothers*
2. *Shark attack, surgery and healing, learning how to live daily life with one arm, new surfing accommodations*
3. *Inspired others through telling her story on t.v. and in a book, surfing again and entering competitions, volunteering for different organizations to help others and support faith in God*

1. Bethany Hamilton was **inspired** by her family and her faith in God.
2. Bethany Hamilton **struggled through many adversities** caused by her shark attack including how to live daily life and surf again with one arm.
3. Bethany Hamilton uses her **accomplishments** to inspire faith and hope as her **legacy** through her determination to surf again and volunteering to help others who are struggling.

Combine the three statements you created above into one unified thesis. Take a little from #1, #2 and #3. If needed, rearrange the order of your questions to make your thesis clearer.

Remember that a thesis is usually 1 sentence, but it can also be 2 if needed. →

Please note that this can be somewhat-complicated step. Be prepared to “play around” with the addition and omission of words, and their order until you find an arrangement that you’re happy with. ☺

★ Bethany Hamilton had many **inspirations and motivations** that influenced her, she struggled through several **adversities**, yet she achieved many great **accomplishments** that will contribute to her legacy.

★ Bethany Hamilton was **inspired** by her family and faith in God, yet she still struggled through many **adversities** caused by her shark attack. However, Bethany continues to use her **accomplishments** to inspire faith and hope as her legacy.

★ Bethany Hamilton was **inspired** by her family and faith in God, struggled through many **adversities** caused by her shark attack such as learning how to live daily life and surf again with only one arm, yet she has created a legacy of faith and hope through her **achievements** including competing in surfing competitions and volunteering for different charitable organizations.

Three acceptable thesis options:

The 1st thesis is direct & simple.

The 2nd thesis demonstrates a thesis can be in 2 sentences.

The 3rd thesis is a bit more complicated, but it demonstrates how you can include specific examples too.

MAKING SENSE OF THE THESIS... & PREPARING FOR THE NEXT STEPS:

TOPIC

Subtopic 1

Bethany Hamilton was inspired by her family and faith in God,

Subtopic 2

struggled through many adversities caused by a shark attack, yet she

Subtopic 3

uses her accomplishments to inspire faith and hope as her *legacy*.

Study the thesis example again:

So, when reading, making notecards, and organizing information, your attention should be on:

Subtopic 1: inspirations/motivations/influences

Subtopic 2: adversities/struggles

Subtopic 3: accomplishments/impacts on society



Your thesis should reveal how the rest of the paper is going to be organized:

Introduction: Introduce "Bethany Hamilton" as topic and share the thesis statement.

Body Paragraph 1: Explanation of inspirations/motivations/influences that impacted "Bethany Hamilton".

Body Paragraph 2: Explanation of the adversities/struggles that "Bethany Hamilton" faced.

Body Paragraph 3: Explanation of "Bethany Hamilton's" accomplishments/impacts on society.

Conclusion: Wrap-up previously-stated points & restate thesis.

And THAT leads directly into Step 6 (creating & organizing your note cards by subtopics)!

Inspirations/Motivations/Influences Source #

Begin note here:

Adversities/Struggles Source #

Begin note here:

Accomplishments/Impacts on Society Source #

Begin note here:

Page #

Page #

Your Turn...

TURNING YOUR RESEARCH QUESTIONS (Step 4)
INTO A THESIS STATEMENT (Step 5):

**Start with your 3
Research Questions →**

1.

2.

3.

**Consider what you learned
about your topic →**

*(Jot down some notes about the
3 subtopics)*

1.

2.

3.

Create 3 statements →

*(combine the your 3 questions & info
you learned about the subtopics)*

1.

2.

3.

**Combine the statements you
created into one unified thesis.
Take a little from #1, #2 and #3. If
needed, rearrange the order of
your questions to make your
thesis clearer.**

**Remember that a thesis is usually
1 sentence, but it can also be 2, if
needed. →**

Please note that this can be a
somewhat-complicated step. Be
prepared to “play around” with the
addition and omission of words, and
their order until you find an arrangement
that you’re happy with. ☺

MAKING SENSE OF YOUR THESIS...& PREPARING FOR THE NEXT STEPS:

Rewrite your final thesis statement and underline or highlight (using 3 different colors) your three subtopics:

So, when reading, making notecards and organizing information, what should your attention be on???

Subtopic 1:

Subtopic 2:

Subtopic 3:

How will your paper be organized?

Introduction: Introduce “Bethany Hamilton” as your topic and then the thesis.

Body Paragraph 1: _____

Body Paragraph 2: _____

Body Paragraph 3: _____

Conclusion: *Wrap-up previously-stated points.*

And THAT leads directly into Step 6D (creating & organizing your note cards by subtopics)!

_____	Source #
Begin note here:	
_____	Page # (if book)

_____ Source #	
Begin note here:	
_____ Source #	_____ Page # (if book)

[illegible]

If you're choosing to use colored note cards, try to stick to this color-coding system:

Pink- intro/background info
Yellow- subtopic 1
Orange- subtopic 2
Green- subtopic 3
White-conclusion info